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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 HANOI 000823

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

STATE ALSO PASS USTR SPOONER/MILLER
USDOC FOR DAS JIM LEONARD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ETRD](#) [KTEX](#) [VM](#)

SUBJECT: Vietnam: GVN textile quota counter proposal

1. (U) Sensitive but unclassified protect accordingly.

2. (SBU) Post received a letter addressed to David Spooner, USTR Special Textile Negotiator, from the Vietnamese Ministry of Trade (MOT) dated April 02, 2003 forwarding the GVN counterproposal on textile quota levels. The letter is signed by Nguyen Thanh Bien, Director General of the Trade Policy Department for Europe and America, who replaced Le Van Dao as Chief Negotiator for the Vietnamese side. (Note Mr. Dao left MOT to work for the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS).) Post will fax a copy of the letter to USTR and EAP/BCLTV at the Department of State. Text of the letter and counter proposal follows.

3. (U) Begin text of letter - informal translation:

Ministry of Trade
Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Hanoi, April 2, 2003

Mr. David Spooner
Special Textile Negotiator
Executive Office of the President
U.S. Trade Representative
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Spooner,

As specified in our note dated March 24, 2003 sent to the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi that Vietnam would produce its counter-proposal one week before the commencing date of negotiations, I hereby forward to you Vietnam's proposal on Annex B. Our drafted text shall be handed over to the U.S. side during our talks in Washington.

I hope that we will have productive and constructive discussions next week toward the completion of a mutually satisfactory deal.

I am looking forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely,
(signed)
Nguyen Thanh Bien
Chief Negotiator

End text of letter.

4. (SBU) Begin text of counter proposal:

Vietnam's Counter Proposal on Annex B

Cat	Description	Units	2003 quota	growth rate
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200	Retail yarn Sewing thread	Kg	3,200,000	14%
301	Combed cotton Yarn	Kg	5,600,000	14%
332	Cotton Hosiery	Doz Pr.	5,000,000	14%
333	Men/Boy suit- type coats	Doz	100,000	14%
342/ 642	Skirts	Doz	4,900,000	14%
351/ 651	Pajamas etc	Doz	4,000,000	14%
352/ 652	Underwear	Doz	10,000,000	14%
359/ 659S	Swimwear	Kg	7,000,000	14%

434	Men/Boy other wool coats	Doz	160,000	8%
435	Women/Girl wool coats	Doz	480,000	8%
440	Woven wool shirt and blouses	Doz	40,000	8%
447	Men/Boy wool Trousers	Doz	560,000	8%
448	Women/Girl wool trousers	Doz	420,000	8%
620	Woven Fabric of other synthetic Filament Yarn	Sq Mt	56,000,000	14%

End text of counterproposal.

BURGHARDT